

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims is set forth below. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1. (withdrawn) A switch that selectively switches from one terminal to another among a plurality of terminals to which a computer is connected, and that can be remotely operated by a remote-control computer connected to a predetermined network, the switch comprising:

an information acquiring unit that acquires cursor location information from the remote-control computer;

an image extracting unit that extracts a cursor peripheral image from an image storing unit that stores an image obtained from the computer, based on the cursor location information acquired by the information acquiring unit; and

a cursor image transmitting unit that transmits the cursor peripheral image, extracted by the image extracting unit, to the remote-control computer.

2. (withdrawn) The switch as claimed in claim 1, wherein the image extracting unit detects an image change from a difference between a first image obtained from the computer and a second image obtained after the first image, and extracts a predetermined region that includes the changed portion of the second image with respect to the first image.

3. (withdrawn) The switch as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an image transmitting unit that transmits a general image to the remote-control computer, wherein:

when acquiring the cursor location information from the remote-control computer, the image transmitting unit stops transmitting the general image to the remote-control computer, and

after the cursor peripheral image is transmitted by the cursor image transmitting unit, the image transmitting unit resumes transmitting the general image to the remote-control computer.

4. (withdrawn) The switch as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an image processing unit that performs image processing on a general image to be transmitted to the remote-control computer, wherein:

when acquiring the cursor location information from the remote-control computer, the image processing unit stops performing the image processing on the general image, and,

after the cursor peripheral image is transmitted by the cursor image transmitting unit, the image processing unit resumes the image processing on the general image.

5. (withdrawn) The switch as claimed in claim 3, wherein the image transmitting unit detects an image change from a difference between a first image obtained from the computer and a second image obtained after the first image, and transmits a predetermined region that includes the changed portion of the second image with respect to the first image, to the remote-control computer.

6. (withdrawn) The switch as claimed in claim 1, wherein the image extracting unit extracts the cursor peripheral image at predetermined intervals.

7. (withdrawn) The switch as claimed in claim 6, wherein the predetermined intervals are changed in accordance with a preset value transmitted from the remote-control computer.

8. (withdrawn) The switch as claimed in claim 6, wherein the predetermined intervals are changed in accordance with the congestion level of the network.

9. (withdrawn) The switch as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an image compressing unit that compresses an image to be transmitted to the remote-control computer.

10. (withdrawn) The switch as claimed in claim 9, wherein the image compressing unit changes a compression technique or a compression ratio in accordance with the congestion level of the network.

11. (currently amended) An image transmission apparatus that transmits ~~an image~~ a stream of images to an information processing apparatus connected to a predetermined network, the image transmission apparatus comprising:

an information acquiring unit that acquires cursor location information from the information processing apparatus;

an image extracting unit that extracts ~~a cursor peripheral image~~ images from an image storing unit that stores the ~~image~~ images to be transmitted to the information processing apparatus, based on the cursor location information acquired by the information acquiring unit; and

a cursor image transmitting unit that transmits the cursor peripheral ~~image~~ images,

extracted by the image extracting unit, to the information processing apparatus.

12. (original) The image transmission apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the image extracting unit detects an image change from a difference between a first image to be transmitted to the information processing apparatus and a second image to be transmitted after the first image, and extracts a predetermined region that includes the changed portion of the second image with respect to the first image.

13. (original) The image transmission apparatus as claimed in claim 11, further comprising an image transmitting unit that transmits a general image to the information processing apparatus,

wherein, when the cursor location information is acquired from the information processing apparatus, the image transmitting unit stops transmitting the general image to the information processing apparatus, and, after the cursor peripheral image is transmitted by the cursor image transmitting unit, the image transmitting unit resumes transmitting the general image to the information processing apparatus.

14. (currently amended) A method of transmitting ~~an image~~ a stream of images to an information processing apparatus connected to a predetermined network, comprising:

acquiring cursor location information from the information processing apparatus;

extracting ~~a cursor peripheral image~~ images from an image storing unit that stores the ~~image~~ images to be transmitted to the information processing apparatus, based on the cursor location information acquired in the acquiring of the cursor location information; and

transmitting the cursor peripheral ~~image~~ images, extracted in the extracting of the cursor peripheral image, to the information processing apparatus.

15. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the extracting of the cursor peripheral image includes detecting an image change from a difference between a first image to be transmitted to the information processing apparatus and a second image to be transmitted after the first image, and extracting a predetermined region that includes the changed portion of the second image with respect to the first image.

16. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising transmitting a general image to the information processing apparatus,

wherein the transmitting of the general image includes stopping transmitting the general

image to the information processing apparatus when the cursor location information is acquired from the information processing apparatus, and resuming transmitting the general image to the information processing apparatus after the cursor peripheral image is transmitted .

17. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising the step of performing image processing on a general image to be transmitted to the information processing apparatus,

wherein the image processing includes stopping performing the image processing on the general image when the cursor location information is acquired from the information processing apparatus, and resuming the image processing on the general image after the cursor peripheral image is transmitted.

18. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the image transmitting includes detecting an image change from a difference between a first image obtained from a computer and a second image acquired after the first image, and transmitting a predetermined region that includes the image change of the second image with respect to the first image, to the information processing apparatus.

19. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the image extracting includes extracting the cursor peripheral image at predetermined intervals.

20. (original) The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the predetermined intervals are changed in accordance with a preset value transmitted from the information processing apparatus.

21. (original) The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the predetermined intervals are changed in accordance with the congestion level of the network.

22. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising compressing an image to be transmitted to the information processing apparatus.

23. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the compressing includes changing a compression technique or a compression ratio in accordance with the congestion level of the network.

24. (withdrawn) A method of displaying an image transmitted from an information processing apparatus connected to a predetermined network, comprising:
acquiring cursor location information;
transmitting the cursor location information to the information processing apparatus; and
combining a first image obtained from the information processing apparatus with a second image in accordance with the cursor location information acquired from the information processing apparatus that have received the cursor location information.

25. (currently amended) An image transmitting program product for operating a computer that transmits ~~an image~~ a stream of images to an information processing apparatus connected to a predetermined network, the image transmitting program product causing the computer to function as:

an information acquiring unit that acquires cursor location information from the information processing apparatus;

an image extracting unit that extracts ~~a cursor peripheral image~~ images from an image storing unit that stores the ~~image~~ images to be transmitted to the information processing apparatus, based on the cursor location information acquired by the information acquiring unit;
and

a cursor image transmitting unit that transmits the cursor peripheral ~~image~~ images, extracted by the image extracting unit, to the information processing apparatus.

26. (original) The image transmitting program product as claimed in claim 25, wherein the image extracting unit detects an image change from a difference between a first image to be transmitted to the information processing apparatus and a second image to be transmitted after the first image, and extracts a predetermined region that includes the changed portion of the second image with respect to the first image.

27. (original) The image transmitting program product as claimed in claim 25, further causing the computer to function as an image transmitting unit that transmits a general image to the information processing apparatus,

wherein, when the cursor location information is acquired from the information processing apparatus, the image transmitting unit stops transmitting the general image to the information processing apparatus, and, after the cursor peripheral image is transmitted by the cursor image transmitting unit, the image transmitting unit resumes transmitting the general image to the information processing apparatus.

28. (original) The image transmitting program product as claimed in claim 25, further causing the computer to function as an image processing unit that performs image processing on a general image to be transmitted to the image processing apparatus,

wherein, when the cursor location information is acquired from the information processing apparatus, the image processing unit stops performing the image processing on the general image, and, after the cursor peripheral image is transmitted by the cursor image transmitting unit, the image transmitting unit resumes the image processing on the general image.

29. (original) The image transmitting program product as claimed in claim 27, wherein the image transmitting unit detects an image change from a difference between a first image to be transmitted to the information processing apparatus and a second image to be transmitted after the first image, and transmits a predetermined region that includes the changed portion of the second image with respect to the first image, to the information processing apparatus.

30. (original) The image transmitting program product as claimed in claim 25, wherein the image extracting unit extracts the cursor peripheral image at predetermined intervals.

31. (original) The image transmitting program product as claimed in claim 30, wherein the predetermined intervals are changed in accordance with a preset value transmitted from the information processing apparatus.

32. (original) The image transmitting program product as claimed in claim 30, wherein the predetermined intervals are changed in accordance with the congestion level of the network.

33. (original) The image transmitting program product as claimed in claim 25, further causing the computer to function as an image compressing unit that compresses an image to be transmitted to the information processing apparatus.

34. (original) The image transmitting program product as claimed in claim 33, wherein the image compressing unit changes a compression technique or a compression ratio in accordance with the congestion level of the network.

35. (withdrawn) An image displaying program product for operating a computer to

display an image transmitted from an information processing apparatus connected to a predetermined network,

the image displaying program product causing the computer to function as:

an information acquiring unit that acquires cursor location information;

an information transmitting unit that transmits the cursor location information, acquired by the information acquiring unit, to the information processing apparatus; and

an image combining unit that combines a first image obtained from the information processing apparatus with a second image in accordance with the cursor location information transmitted from the information transmitting unit that have received the cursor location information from the information processing apparatus, the image combining unit then outputting a composite image to a display unit.